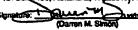


I hereby certily that this paper (s



EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 2131 Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-816

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Sako et al.

Application No.: 09/940,710

: Group Art Unit: 2131

Filed: August 28, 2001

: Examiner: K. Abrishamkar

FOR: DATA OUTPUT METHOD AND APPARATUS, DATA PLAYBACK METHOD AND APPARATUS, DATA RECORDING METHOD AND APPARATUS, AND DATA RECORDING AND PLAYBACK METHOD

AND APPARATUS

UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

DINTER FIATER

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 7, 2006, finally rejecting claims 1-7, 9-23, 35-37, 39-41, 48-52, 55-57, 59-61, 64-65, 80-81, 84-85, 87-89, and 92-93, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Enter with RCE filed 2-9-07. 73.4. 4-27-07